

## Preface

This issue of the journal consists of two chapters. The first one is devoted to men's studies and the second one, to the research on social exclusion. The articles published in this issue not only focus on the topics rarely analyzed in Lithuania but also do it with regard to innovative theoretical and methodological strategies.

The first chapter "Men's Studies" discusses prisoners' masculinities and prison subcultures, young homosexual and bisexual men's procreational intentions and the relationship between masculinity and contraceptive practices. In her article "Incarcerated Masculinities: from Hypermasculinity to Masculine Front Management," Rūta Petkevičiūtė focuses on the construction of incarcerated masculinity. Analyzing 60 semi-structured interviews conducted in three Lithuanian correctional houses (Vilnius, Alytus and Pravieniškės) and prisoners' criminal records, she argues that three forms of masculinity – hypermasculinity, traditional and "human" – predominate in the Lithuanian prisons. Lilija Kublickienė's article "Masculinity in a Criminal Subculture, and the Possibilities of Inmate Resocialization" also discusses masculinity in a criminal subculture. Basing her conclusions on semi-structured interviews with employees of the Lithuanian correctional houses, she argues that they pay insufficient attention to social rehabilitation programs that could specifically prevent the manifestations of the criminal subculture. Furthermore, the employees are not immune to the influence of the criminal subculture often regarded as a natural phenomenon difficult to resist.

The last two articles of this chapter discuss young homosexual and bisexual men's procreational intentions and the complex relationships between young heterosexual men's masculinity and contraceptive practices. In her article "Procreational Intentions of Young Homosexual and Bisexual Men in Lithuania," Lina Šumskaitė argues that the interviewed men did not consider children as a means of their emotional wellbeing. Their intention to have children was, in most cases, a merely a political statement related to their coming out in their immediate environment. Analyzing 30 semi-structured interviews with 19–34-year-old childless men, Vaida Tretjakova notes that contraceptive practices can function as a means of enacting normative masculinity and influencing the development of romantic relationships.

The second chapter of this issue entitled "Social Exclusion Studies" focuses on different factors and aspects of social exclusion. The article "Masculinity, (Mis)recognition and Social Exclusion of Young Unemployed Men" suggests

that by analyzing a complex relation between masculinity, recognition, normativity and social exclusion, it is necessary to rethink what kind of male subjects are recognized as valuable in specific social fields and how their (mis)recognition can deconstruct the established gender norms that affect men's experiences of social exclusion and isolation. In her article "Causes and Patterns of Alcohol Consumption in Lithuania: Aspects of Harm and Informal Control," Ilona Tamutienė discusses the relation between causes and patterns of alcohol consumption, the harm of alcohol and the informal control of drinkers. Analyzing the data of a quantitative survey of adult residents of Lithuania conducted in 2014 as a part of the Social Exclusion and Social Participation in Transitional Lithuania project (VP1-3.1-SMM-07-K), she distinguishes two types of alcohol consumption – frivolous and dependent. The motives of sociability and alcohol-induced emotions were characteristic of frivolous consumption. The second type of alcohol use defined as dependent displayed the signs of alcohol addiction that was dominated by the motives of "solving" problems and negative emotions produced by alcohol. According to the author, both types of alcohol use correlated with the indicators of social harm done by alcohol consumption.

In their article "Surrounded by Invisible Boundaries: The Manifestation of Social Exclusion of Religious Minorities in Contemporary Lithuania", Milda Ališauskienė and Ingo W. Schröder argue that social exclusion of religious minorities is manifested in every level of societal life: communities and their members are stigmatized and marginalized and their activities in the public sphere are restricted. In his article "Risk Construction from the Point of View of Governmentality Theory," Vylius Leonavičius analyzes the specific conception of the governmentalization of the state and its relation to the contemporary risk society. In other word, the theory of governmentality could be used to analyze the construction of risk in the governing of contemporary society including managing the issues related to social exclusion.

In the last article of this chapter, "Rethinking Social Exclusion and Social Suffering," Artūras Tereškinas examines the nature of multidimensional deprivation, social exclusion and social suffering in contemporary societies. Reflecting on the intersecting issues of social exclusion, power, normativity, livable life and identities based on trauma and vulnerability, the article describes the role of a sociologist and sociology that face these issues.

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This issue of the journal also includes a review of Zenonas Norkus's monograph *Two Twenty-Year Periods of Independence: Capitalism, Class and Democracy in the First and Second Republics of Lithuania from the Point of View of Comparative Historical Sociology* (2014).

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